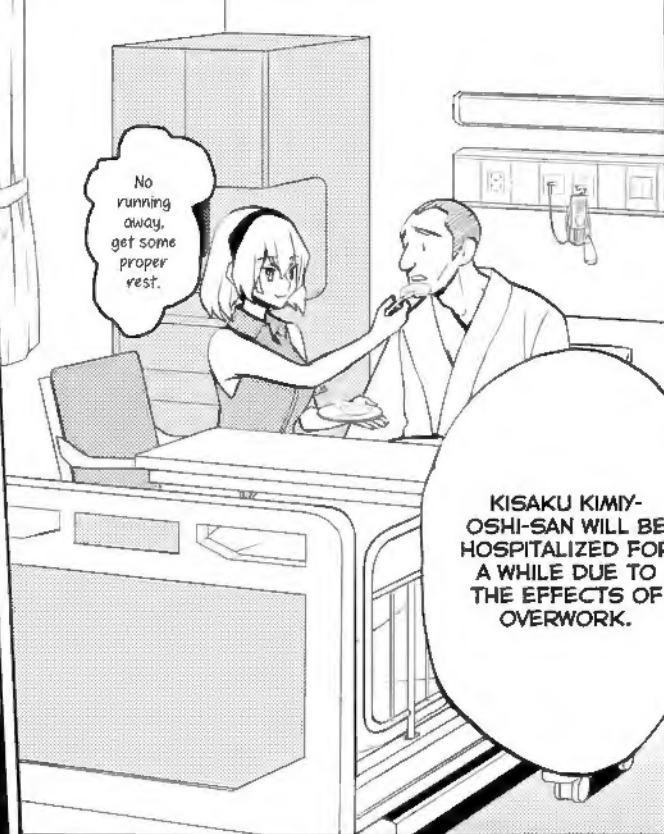


I'M TRULY GLAD THAT HIS WIFE, SATOKO-CHAN, WAS ABLE TO RECOGNIZE THAT SUBTLE CHANGE IN HER HUSBAND.

PERHAPS HIS INNATE YOUTH AND SENSE OF JUSTICE, COMBINED WITH POLARIS SYNDROME, MADE HIM SPIRAL OUT OF CONTROL.



No running away, get some proper rest.

KISAKU KIMIY-OSHI-SAN WILL BE HOSPITALIZED FOR A WHILE DUE TO THE EFFECTS OF OVERWORK.



WE LIVE ON THE VERY EDGE OF OUR EMOTIONS.

HUMANS ARE SURPRISING...



...HERE'S WHAT SATOKO-CHAN HAD TO SAY...



WE'RE ALL
CAUGHT IN
THE GRIP OF
PASSION AND
MADNESS...

EVERY
HUMAN
BEING
ALIVE...

I'LL KILL
YOU, I'LL DI-
VORCE YOU.

I CAN'T COUNT
HOW MANY
TIMES I'VE HAD
THOUGHTS LIKE
THAT BEFORE.



BUT IT'S HUMAN
STRENGTH THAT
HOLDS THOSE
THINGS BACK...

AND HUMAN
STRENGTH
ALLOWS US TO
SUPPORT ONE
ANOTHER TO DO
THE SAME...





IN THE
END, I
CAN'T
COM-
PETE
WITH
SATOKO.

PERHAPS GETTING
MARRIED CHANGES
NOT JUST YOUR
LIFE, BUT THE
WHOLE WORLD.



?

TE
HE
HE...

EVEN AFTER
LIVING HUNDREDS
OF YEARS MYSELF,
SHE'S REACHED A
WORLD STILL UN-
KNOWN TO ME...



YET SATOKO,
WHO HAS
ONLY EVER
LIVED IN HIN-
AMIZAWA, IS
THE ONE TO
SHOW ME THE
TRUTH...

I THOUGHT
THAT BY TRAV-
ELING AROUND
THE WORLD
I'D GAIN MORE
KNOWLEDGE
THAN ANYONE.
ELSE



EVERY PERSON
ALIVE IS CAUGHT
IN THE GRIP OF
PASSION AND
MADNESS.

THE RELATIONSHIP
BETWEEN
HINAMIZAWA
AND POLARIS
IS JUST AS SATOKO
SAYS.

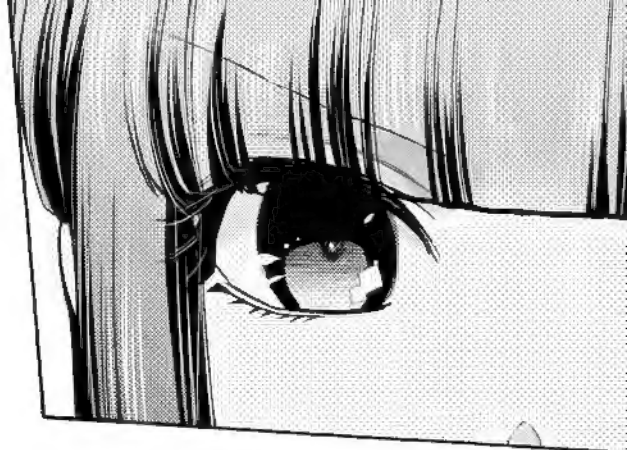
WHENEVER THESE
TWO SIDES INAD-
VERTENTLY COME
INTO CONTACT
WITH EACH OTHER,
ANOTHER BLOODY
TRAGEDY WILL
SOON FOLLOW.

WHERE WE
CONTINUE TO
OSTENSIBLY
CARRY ON AT
PEACE...

WHILE
EACH SIDE
HAS THEIR
FINGER
ON THE
TRIGGER OF
TRAGEDY
FOR THE
OTHER...

IN THAT SENSE,
HINAMIZAWA CONTIN-
UES TO EXIST NOT
UNLIKE WALKING A
TIGHTROPE AT THE
EDGE OF A BLADE.





IF YOU WALK
ON A TIGHT-
ROPE...

SLOWLY, CARE-
FULLY...

MAKING STEADY
PROGRESS
OVER A LONG
ENOUGH PERIOD
OF TIME...

YOU'LL EVENTUALLY
REACH THE END OF
THE CROSSING.

EVEN IF ONLY
SOME OF THE
VILLAGERS COME
TO LEARN THAT,


IT'S A VERY SLIM
SILVER LINING TO
ALL THIS.



FROM NOW ON, IT'S
ABOUT RESPECTING
ONE ANOTHER AND
PEOPLE APPROPRIATE
PERSONAL SPACE.

THE WORLD HAS
CHANGED QUITE
A LOT... FROM
THE SHOWA ERA
ALL THE WAY
UNTIL REIWA.

THE BRUTE FORCE
METHODS OF THE
SHOWA ERA ARE
LONG SINCE OUT-
DATED.



THEY'LL BE
ABLE TO
DO IT.


AS LONG AS THE
PEOPLE OF HINAMIZA-
WA CAN LEARN HOW
TO LIVE IN THIS NEW
ERA, I'M SURE...



AND THEN,
SOME
DAY...

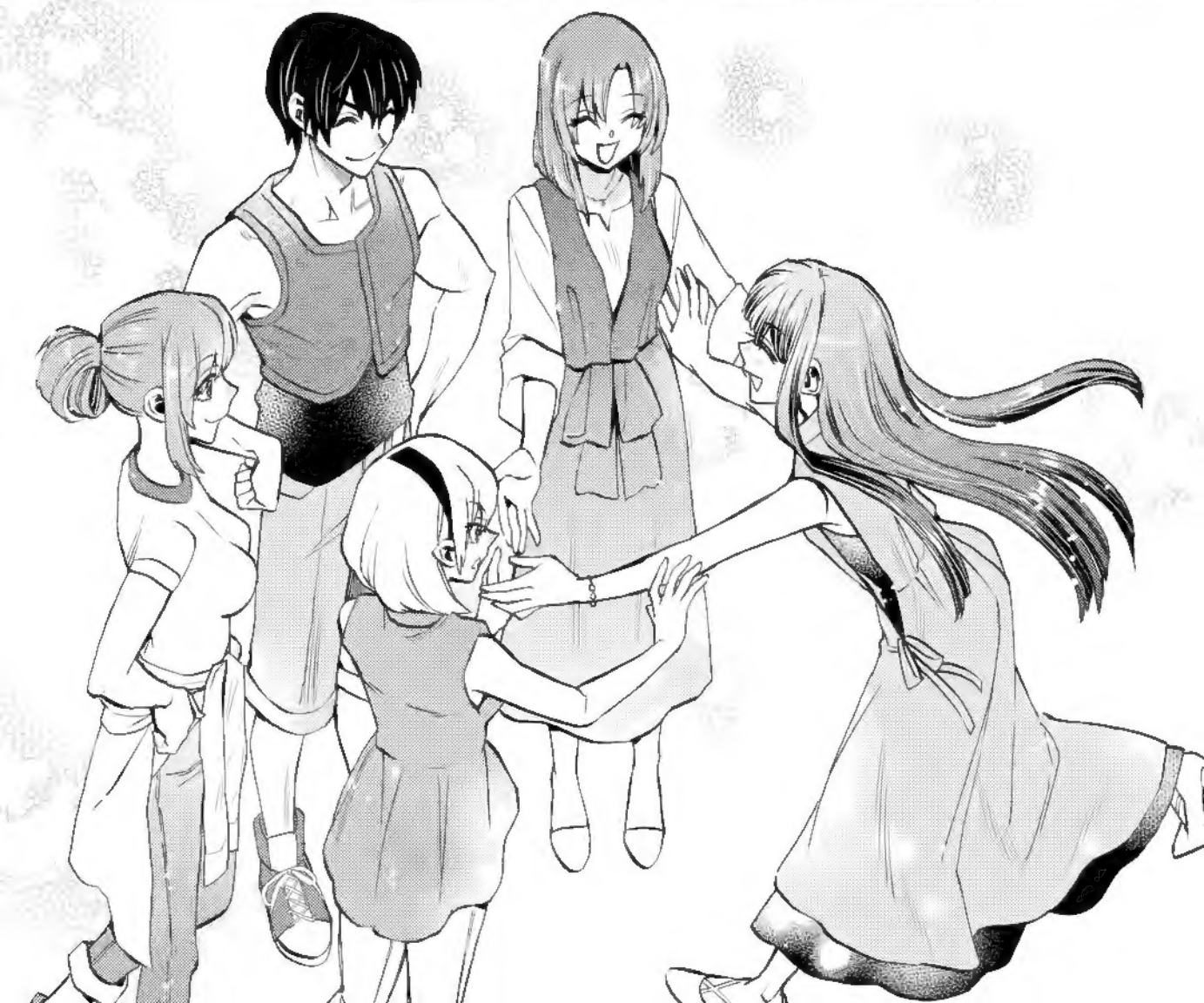
AFTER ALL, THIS IS
ONIGAFUCHI VILLAGE,
WITH A KNOWN HIS-
TORY OF RECONCILI-
ATION AND MUTUAL
FORGIVENESS BE-
TWEEN HUMANS AND
DEMONS.

THE VILLAGERS
AND POLARIS WILL
BE ABLE TO BLEND
TOGETHER WITH
NO DISTINCTION
BETWEEN EACH
OTHER.



HOW MANY
DECADES
OFF MIGHT
THAT BE?

THAT... I DO
NOT KNOW...



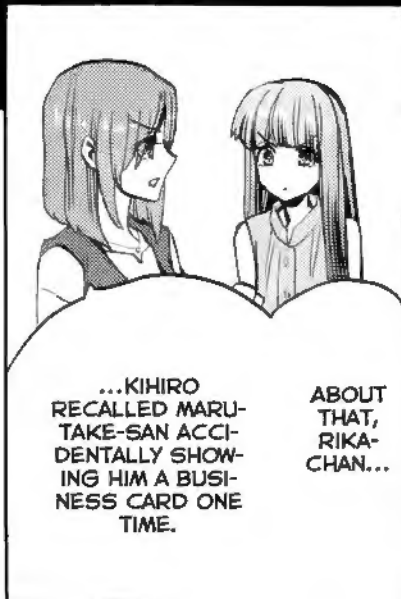


OR SO I'D
LIKE TO SAY,
BUT...

NOW THEN,
THAT
SETTLES
THINGS!

WE HAVEN'T
STOPPED
MARUTAKE.

THERE'S STILL
THE ISSUE
THAT...



...KIHRO
RECALLED MARU-
TAKE-SAN ACCI-
DENTALLY SHOW-
ING HIM A BUSI-
NESS CARD ONE
TIME.

ABOUT
THAT,
RIKA-
CHAN...



THAT'S RIGHT! WE
WON'T BE ABLE TO
REST EASY UNTIL
WE'VE DEALT WITH
HIM.

WHAT CAN
WE DO
ABOUT IT?

HE SAYS IT HAD BBKB
WRITTEN ON IT...

BUSI-
NESS
CARD?



Higurashi no Naku Koro ni Rei: Irotoutoshi-hen

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